

1729 H Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

December 7, 1951

Mr. Max Millikan
Director of Research
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Millikan:

The Research and Policy Committee of the Committee for Economic Development plans to initiate an inquiry into the problems of maintaining our national security. The project is frankly exploratory — it will constitute an attempt by a serious group without access to classified information to come to conclusions in which they have confidence about the threat to our security and the program needed to meet it.

A major part of the undertaking will be to indicate constructive ways to think about the threat and the problems of meeting it. A first consideration will be, what are the key questions which should be asked about the nature and magnitude of the threat. The Committee wants to go on to raise questions and, if practicable, to develop judgments concerning the size and nature of the security measures (both military and non-military) needed to meet the threat, the allocation of our defense efforts between this country and our allies, and the effectiveness with which our security program is being developed and administered.

As a first step in this process, the Committee wishes to bring together a group of experts in various aspects of the problem for a preliminary survey of the questions to which the Committee should devote attention. At this session the task will be primarily to determine the key questions and issues, rather than to provide answers.

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For this purpose, the Committee invites you, with the others listed on the attached sheet, to a one-day conference in New York on January 3, 1952. The meeting will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, starting at 10 a.m. and continuing through luncheon until about 5 p.m. The procedure will be informal and none of the comments made by any participant will be released. The Committee expects to pay travel and other expenses of those attending the meeting and offers an honorarium of \$100 to each person attending.

As you may know, the C.E.D. is an organization of Businessmen concerned with the development, through objective research and discussion, of recommendations of business and public policy which will contribute to the preservation and strengthening of our free society. Attached is a list of the members of the Research and Policy Committee, and of the Research Advisory Board with which the Committee works.

The subject matter of the conference is of the greatest importance and we sincerely hope that you can attend and participate in the discussion. I shall appreciate it if you will let me know at your early convenience whether you can attend.

Sincerely,



Meyer Kestnbaum, Chairman
Research and Policy Committee